

ED'S UP AT BAT

"OK, everyone out on the softball field," yelled the coach. Ed filed out of the gym [then/ with/ ease] the rest of the class. He [since/ erase/ hated] to go to the softball field. [He/ Do/ In] knew that if the class was [jump/ going/ from] to the softball field then they [tick/ slack/ would] have to play softball. Ed knew [that/ down/ since] softball was not his best sport. Whenever [to/ he/ is] tried to hit the ball with [for/ the/ in] bat, he missed. The other kids laughed [at/ or/ in] him when he went up to [is/ or/ bat] to hit the ball. However, even [could/ though/ volley] Ed hated to go up to [for/ bat/ its], he hated waiting for teams to [or/ in/ be] picked even more. Standing alone, as [hard/ very/ the] team captains called out the students' [names/ been/ told], was the worst part of the PE [class/ down/ clean] for Ed. His name was always [glow/ sit/ the] last to be called.

This day [for/ do/ was] no different than any other day [on/ it/ so] the softball field. The two most popular [kids/ live/ from] in the class were voted to [hot/ sew/ be] team captains. Then the team captains [said/ began/ care] to pick their teams. One by [its/ for/ one], the captains called all of the [kids'/ from/ sits] names. Ed was the only student [than/ side/ left] standing on the sidelines. "Ok, we [down/ will/ care] take Ed," said one of the [from/ team/ down] captains with a sigh. Ed walked [pens/ vast/ over] to the group, pretending it did [mat/ side/ not] matter that he was the last [sick/ kid/ rip]

picked for a team.

Ed's team [was/ sick/ even] the first team up to bat. [Upon/ One/ Slow] by one, the kids went up [to/ kit/ van] bat, hit the ball, and ran [to/ he/ in] first base. Some of the team members [side/ were/ roam] able to run all the way [orange/ yellow/ around] the bases to home.

Finally, it [was/ dog/ car] Ed's turn to go up to [bat/ gone/ into]. The pitcher yelled, "Easy out," and [gave/ the/ care] fielders moved closer. Ed clenched his [teeth/ first/ grab] because for once he would like to show [idea/ cot/ all] of these mean kids. The pitcher [draw/ vent/ wound] up the ball and then let [or/ it/ as] fly toward Ed. Ed swung his [disk/ cob/ bat] and heard the sound of a crack! Ed [driven/ clean/ could] feel the solid feeling of the [down/ ball/ colt] hitting the bat. Ed and the [jump/ vast/ other] kids watched in surprise as the [glad/ ease/ ball] flew high in the air and [over/ disk/ were] the fence! Ed ran around the [given/ draw/ bases]. He ran to first base, second [for/ been/ base], third base, and on in to home [from/ since/ plate]. His team stood up and cheered! [Dig/ We/ The] coach came over and gave Ed [by/ on/ a] pat on the back. Ed felt [for/ ease/ very] proud of his hit. He had finally [shown/ drive/ sister] all of those other kids that [in/ he/ as] could hit a softball, too.